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January 12, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

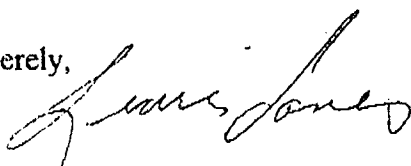
I urge the Department of Justice to accept the proposed Microsoft anti-trust settlement, which goes far beyond the original scope of the lawsuit as it was originally filed. I feel Microsoft made this settlement so it can back to its business of developing software.

As terms of the settlement Microsoft has agreed to grant computer manufacturers and software developers the ability to remove Microsoft products and install competing products in their places. Examples include: Netscape Navigator, RealNetworks RealPlayer, and AOL Instant Messenger. You should note, though, that consumers can install these products on their computer systems regardless if those products came pre-installed on their systems. Microsoft has also agreed to not enter into agreements with third-party computer manufacturers or software developers that would require them to exclusively or in a fixed percentage distribute or promote Windows, unless there is no competitive issue.

Microsoft also must grant intellectual property rights to those third parties that choose to exercise any options in the settlement if those options would infringe on Microsoft's intellectual property. Also as part of the settlement, a three-person "Technical Committee" made of software engineers will be overseeing compliance and assisting in dispute resolution, when needed. The settlement also makes it easy for an individual or company who feels Microsoft is not complying with the settlement provisions to file a complaint, thus making it more likely that Microsoft will abide by all terms in the settlement.

For these reasons, I support the Microsoft settlement. I look forward to seeing this matter finalized and put behind us so we can get on with the business of business. Thank you.

Sincerely,



LEWIS JONES